Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (original) A method for transferring a nucleic acid into a cell, comprising the steps of:

a) holding the cell under a pressure different from an atmospheric pressure; and

b) placing the cell and the nucleic acid under conditions capable of inducing electroporation.

2. (previously amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of holding the cell under the pressure different from the atmospheric pressure is a step of subjecting the cell to depressurization.

3. (previously amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of holding the cell under the pressure different from the atmospheric pressure is a step of subjecting the cell to pressurization.

4. (previously amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of holding the cell under the pressure different from the atmospheric pressure is performed before the step of placing the cell and the nucleic acid under the conditions capable of inducing electroporation.

5. (previously amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the depressurization step is performed under a pressure reduced by about 0.096 MPa from the atmospheric pressure.

6. (previously amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein step b) comprises applying a high voltage pulse to the cell and the nucleic acid in at least two directions.

7. (previously amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the cell is a plant cell.

8. (previously amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein the plant cell is a cell of dormant plant tissue.

9. (previously amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein the dormant plant tissue is a seed.

10. (previously amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein the plant is a monocotyledonous plant.

11. (previously amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein the monocotyledonous plant is a plant of the family *Gramineae*.

12. (previously amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein the plant of the family *Gramineae* is wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.).

13. (previously amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein the plant of the family *Gramineae* is rice (*Oryza sativa* L.).

14. (previously amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein the plant of the family *Gramineae* is maize (*Zea mays* L.).

15. (previously amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein the plant is a dicotyledonous plant.

16. (previously amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein the dicotyledonous plant is a plant of the family *Cruciferae*.

17. (previously amended) The method according to claim 16, wherein the plant of the family *Cruciferae* is Chinese cabbage (*Brassica rapa* L.).

18. (previously amended) The method according to claim 16, wherein the plant of the family *Cruciferae* is rape (*Brassica napus* L.).

19. (previously amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein the dicotyledonous plant is a plant of the family *Leguminosae*.

20. (previously amended) The method according to claim 19, wherein the plant of the family *Leguminosae* is soybean (*Glycine max* Merr).

21. (previously amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein the dicotyledonous plant is a plant of the family *Solanaceae*.

22. (previously amended) The method according to claim 21, wherein the plant of the family *Solanaceae* is tomato (*Lycopersicum esculentum* Mill).

23. (previously amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein the dicotyledonous plant is a plant of the family *Cucurbitaceae*.

24. (previously amended) The method according to claim 23, wherein the plant of the family *Cucurbitaceae* is Japanese cantaloupe (*Cucumis melo* L. ).

25. (previously amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein the dicotyledonous plant is a plant of the family *Convolvulaceae*.

26. (previously amended) The method according to claim 25, wherein the plant of the family *Convolvulaceae* is morning glory (*Pharbitis nil* Choisy).

27. (original) A method for producing a plant, wherein a nucleic acid is transferred into cells of the plant, comprising the steps of:

a) holding a cell under a pressure different from an atmospheric pressure; and

b) placing the cell and the nucleic acid under conditions capable of inducing electroporation.

28. (previously amended) The method according to claim 27, further comprising a step of differentiating, growing, and/or multiplying the cell.

29. (previously amended) The method according to claim 27 or 28, wherein step a) comprises a step of holding a seed containing the cell under the pressure different from the atmospheric pressure, and step b) comprises a step of placing the seed containing the cell and the nucleic acid under the conditions capable of inducing electroporation.

30. (previously amended) The method according to claim 29, wherein the seed is a monocotyledonous plant seed.

31. (previously amended) The method according to claim 30, wherein the monocotyledonous plant seed is a seed of the family *Gramineae*.

32. (previously amended) The method according to claim 31, wherein the seed of the family *Gramineae* is a wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) seed.

33. (previously amended) The method according to claim 31, wherein the seed of the family *Gramineae* is a rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) seed.

34. (previously amended) The method according to claim 31, wherein the seed of the family *Gramineae* is a maize (*Zea mays* L.) seed.

35. (previously amended) The method according to claim 29, wherein the seed is a dicotyledonous plant seed.

36. (previously amended) The method according to claim 35, wherein the dicotyledonous plant seed is a seed of the family *Cruciferae*.

37. (previously amended) The method according to claim 36, wherein the seed of the family *Cruciferae* is a Chinese cabbage (*Brassica rapa* L.) seed.

38. (previously amended) The method according to claim 36, wherein the seed of the family *Cruciferae* is a rape (*Brassica napus* L.) seed.

39. (previously amended) The method according to claim 35, wherein the dicotyledonous plant seed is a seed of the family *Leguminosae*.

40. (previously amended) The method according to claim 39, wherein the seed of the family *Leguminosae* is a soybean (*Glycine max* Merr) seed.

41. (previously amended) The method according to claim 35, wherein the dicotyledonous plant seed is a seed of the family *Solanaceae*.

42. (previously amended) The method according to claim 41, wherein the seed of the family *Solanaceae* is a tomato (*Lycopersicum esculentum* Mill) seed.

43. (previously amended) The method according to claim 35, wherein the dicotyledonous plant seed is a seed of the family *Cucurbitaceae*.

44. (previously amended) The method according to claim 43, wherein the seed of the family *Cucurbitaceae* is a Japanese cantaloupe (*Cucumis melo* L.) seed.

45. (previously amended) The method according to claim 35, wherein the dicotyledonous plant seed is a seed of the family *Convolvulaceae*.

46. (previously amended) The method according to claim 45, wherein the seed of the family *Convolvulaceae* is a morning glory (*Pharbitis nil* Choisy) seed.

47. (previously amended) A plant, produced by a method according to any one of claims 27 to 28 or 30-46.

48. (previously amended) The plant according to claim 47, which does not contain a somaclonal variation.

49. – 70. (cancelled)

71. (previously presented) A plant, produced by a method according to claim 29.